

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR



We can look back on another successful academic year with optimism and gratitude. Over 300 undergraduate majors and seven Ph.D.s graduated, and four out of five students reported that their education has prepared them well or very well to understand government and politics. One out of four students

surveyed responded that they were going on to graduate school or law school. Many are going into teaching, and over one third expected to be working in a field related to their major.

Caroline Zullo, a 2015 honors graduate, won one of the highly competitive spots in the Carnegie Junior Fellows Program. She is the first UNC student in 25 years to be selected for this prestigious program. She will be working with senior associates at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in the Middle East program.

Long-term tracking of our Ph.D.s reveals a successful placement record (check it out at <http://politicalscience.unc.edu/graduate/job-placement>), and this year nearly all of our students found positions in academia. At our annual Uhlman seminar, several of our former students who are now faculty sent video greetings. They emphasized the benefits of our nurturing and supportive Department, and the importance of summer support from the Uhlman endowment in facilitating their success on the job market.

We were thrilled to hire a new colleague. Assistant Professor Santiago Olivella joins us in January of 2017 to fill a critical

departmental need in political methodology. Santiago comes to us after spending the last year and a half in a prestigious post-doctoral position at Princeton University.

We also bid farewell to a wonderful colleague. Lars Schoultz, William Rand Kenan, Jr., Distinguished Professor, retired after 37 years on our faculty to embark on new adventures while continuing with his research. We shall greatly miss his outstanding teaching and service and his gentle and supportive presence in the Department.

We are grateful for the generous support from alumni and friends of the Department. This support is crucial for our ability to hire and retain outstanding faculty, thereby providing the best possible education to our students. This support also helps our graduate students devote their summers to research and publication, improving their work and their job prospects.

Faculty and graduate students are partners in research, and this partnership also opens up opportunities for undergraduate students to participate in research. In short, the quality of undergraduate instruction and the value of a UNC Political Science degree is a result of the combined quality of our faculty and graduate students, and private support helps us in our relentless pursuit of excellence in both categories.

Evelyne Huber
 Chair, Department of Political Science
 Morehead Alumni Distinguished Professor

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

LARS SCHOULTZ

When we ponder the amazing career of Lars Schoultz at UNC, it is appropriate to think in chapters. His first UNC chapter begins in 1969 as a graduate student from California who would become one of UNC's brightest stars. His specialty was always in Latin America, beginning with a focus on Argentina and Colombia, but he also had an unparalleled understanding of the interactions between the United States and its southern neighbors.



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

With his PhD in hand in 1973, Lars began teaching at Miami University. He quickly emerged as a young star in his field, and after a brief stint at the University of Florida, he returned home to Chapel Hill in 1979. By this time, Lars was publishing impactful books, including *Human Rights and United States Policy toward Latin America*, followed by *National Security and U.S. Policy toward Latin America* in 1987, both published by Princeton University Press. In this landmark work, Lars sought to examine the “values that underlie the structure of United States policy toward Latin America.” This was a volatile time in America’s human rights history, and one key to the success of this work was Lars’ ability and willingness to “describe and analyze United States policy as it was and as it is, not as I would wish it to be.” He conducted hundreds of interviews, weaving together a narrative of policy-making that endures to this day.

Then came *Beneath the United States: A History of U.S. Policy toward Latin America*, published by Harvard University Press in 1998. In this statement work, Lars painstakingly shows how the United States’ perception of Latin America as inferior has shaped U.S. foreign policy for over two centuries. The book has been cited by hundreds of scholars, and gave voice to a new strength in Latin American studies.

Later in his career Lars became known as one of the world’s most expert scholars in the study of U.S.-Cuban relations. His expertise shines in his 2009 book, *That Infernal Little Cuban Republic: The United States and the Cuban Revolution* (UNC Press), that is considered required reading for anyone interested in U.S. foreign policy towards Cuba.

These days, we know him as the William Rand Kenan, Jr., Professor of Political Science, and one of the folks that we consider to be synonymous with UNC. He has been a core member of the Institute for the Study of the Americas (formerly the Institute for Latin American Studies), a leading research center focusing on Latin America as well as US-Latin American relations. He served as the founding director of the Duke-UNC Program in Latin American Studies. During this time the Duke-UNC Program became the first Title VI National Resource Center in either university’s history, and that led to two endowment grants from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation supporting the Institute to this day. He has served this department and the university in countless roles, from department chair to development coordinator, and is a past president of the Latin American Studies Association.

Lars is also a dedicated instructor, and any of you who were lucky enough to take one of his courses will attest to his extraordinary teaching. Professor Schoultz has won nearly every teaching award possible at UNC, including the Tanner Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in 1982, the Chapman Family Teaching Award, and the William C. Friday Award in 2005. He has also been inducted into the Order of the Golden Fleece and the Order of the Grail-Valkyries. He has mentored countless undergraduates, including students who went on to become Rhodes Scholars.

His former graduate students will be quick to add that Lars’ excellence in teaching is not limited to undergraduates. In fact, at a recent celebration of his career, nineteen former graduate students made their way to Chapel Hill from

all over the country and from Latin America to show their appreciation for his advising and mentorship. Simply put, he has demonstrated sustained excellence in research, service, and teaching throughout his career.

And now, he begins his next chapter, as a UNC Professor Emeritus of Political Science. Lars officially retired on June 30, 2016, after thirty-seven years at Carolina and forty-three years as a professor. He is thrilled with this change, and the freedoms it brings. Still actively researching US foreign policy in Latin America, but also loving the ability to travel, ponder, and most importantly, avoid departmental faculty meetings. Of course, we are sad that UNC’s undergraduates will no longer experience the wisdom, patience, and charm of Lars Schoultz in the classroom. And we are particularly sad to not be able to rely on his leadership and sage advice in the department. But he has earned this new chapter, many times over, and it gives us great joy to know he hasn’t gone far. If you’re lucky, you can still catch him in his office on the second floor of Hamilton Hall, or coming out of Davis Library as he ponders his next book.

From all of us in the department, we want to thank Lars for everything he has done to make Political Science at UNC one of the best departments in the world. And we wish you well, Lars, in this next chapter.



PROFESSOR TOM CARSEY AND THE ODUM INSTITUTE'S NEW FOCUS ON OPEN SCIENCE

You know the old expression, popularized by Mark Twain: "There are three kinds of lies: lies, damned lies, and statistics." It is a phrase designed to cast doubt on arguments made using statistical evidence. The idea is that statistics can be manipulated just like any other form of persuasion, and should be viewed with skepticism. The expression may be over a century old, but it hints at a long-standing issue: how do we instill confidence in the evidence that supports scientific research? Political scientists often use cutting edge statistical methods and data to help answer the enduring puzzles of political inquiry, and promoting transparency and reproducible results has never been more important.



Professor Tom Carsey

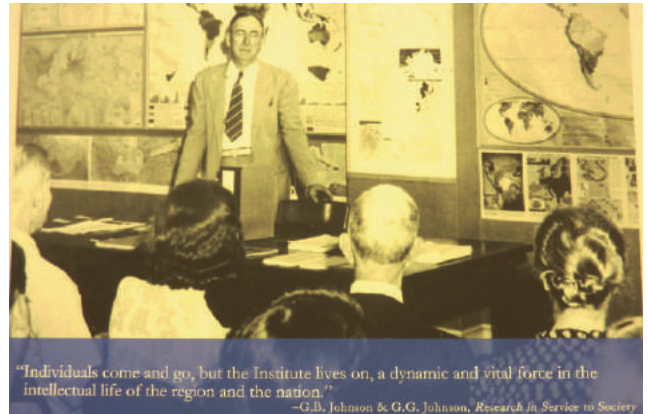
In 2012, the American Political Science Association changed its ethics rules to call upon its members who make evidence based claims to make their data available, and to bring transparency to the way the data was collected as well as analyzed. This shift is part of a larger movement throughout academia to pursue "Open Science." Open Science means making scientific research as transparent and accessible, so that other scientists can understand how the data were collected and the analysis was conducted. The two criteria combine to make research more reproducible, which allows others to check our work and build upon new knowledge. Open Science is a difficult but important task, and it has become a top priority for major funding agencies like the National Science Foundation. So how can we do a better job bolstering our research with confidence that our work is durable, transparent social science? To borrow another old phrase, one strategy is to "trust but verify."

Enter Tom Carsey, Pearsall Distinguished Professor of Political Science, and Director of UNC's Odum Institute for Research in Social Science. Through Tom's leadership and vision, UNC's Odum Institute has answered the call and developed the first and only third-party verification service to evaluate, verify, and archive statistical analyses used in political science research. This innovation positions UNC at the forefront of meeting the increased demand for open science. Using tools like third-party verification, political

scientists can now demonstrate that a neutral expert has verified that their research is reproducible and transparent. But the Odum Institute goes a step further, providing the infrastructure and expert assistance of data archivists to help scholars store their data and code online in UNC's Dataverse. This online data science portal gives everyone access to the data and methods used to produce new research. The combination of verification and archiving gives scientists around the nation the ability to achieve unparalleled levels of Open Science.

These new tools are already having an impact in the discipline. *The American Journal of Political Science*, one of the top journals in political science, requires all accepted quantitative research to be verified and archived by UNC. *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* has the same rule, and others will surely follow.

Those of you who know Tom Carsey know that he is not satisfied to rest on this hard-earned success. He and the Odum Institute are hard at work on two new tools that will make Open Science easier than ever for scholars. The first is a web-based portal that guides the researcher through a set of questions to help her or him create a more transparent code book and data set. The process will be easy to use, and should



"Individuals come and go, but the Institute lives on, a dynamic and vital force in the intellectual life of the region and the nation."
-G.B. Johnson & G.G. Johnson, *Research in Service to Society*

help scholars avoid the most common pitfalls that make replication so challenging. The second project is to develop a virtual computing environment that will allow scholars around the world to upload and test out their statistical analyses to make sure everything is working properly before submitting their work for publication. Often scholars find that everything seems to work fine on their local computer, only to discover some special setting or customization on their machine that they forgot to replicate. Carsey predicts that these two tools will go a long way toward helping scientists spend more time on their research and less time navigating these new challenges of accessibility and transparency.

This is just another way that UNC is at the forefront of science and scientific research. Kudos to the Odum Institute and especially to Tom for pioneering these tools!

COMMENCEMENT 2016

celebrating our graduating seniors

“Welcome to the Political Science Department’s Graduation Ceremony.” So began Evelyne Huber, department chair and Morehead Alumni Distinguished Professor. “We trust that your four years here have opened for you new horizons that will enrich your life forever. And we very much hope that you have developed a life-long love of learning, a commitment to public service, and a strong connection to this university, where this love of learning and the commitment to public service were nurtured.”

The sky was classic Carolina Blue and the mid-70s temperature was perfect for the celebration, held in Memorial Hall on Mother’s Day, May 8, following the university-wide ceremony in Kenan Stadium.

Professor Huber first introduced the recipient of the L. Richardson Preyer Award, named in honor of the six-term member of Congress from Greensboro, North Carolina, and a firm friend of the Department and the broader University of North Carolina. It is given each year by the department faculty to the graduate with the most outstanding academic record. This year’s recipient was Marques Ray McPhail, of Goldboro, North Carolina, soon to enroll in the graduate program in accounting at UNC’s School of Business. Speaking both to and for all the graduates, he urged his fellow students “not to lose sight of our purpose and obligation to help others. We know that progress and positive change are not foregone conclusions; it is our responsibility to work together to help ensure they are achieved.”

McPhail’s remarks were followed by the Commencement Address, given this year by Brandon M. Lofton. Professor Huber introduced him as a proud Tarheel – as a UNC Phi Beta Kappa graduate with highest honors in Political Science in 2010. He then earned his law degree from New York University and began his legal career working alongside the late Julius Chambers at the Charlotte civil rights law firm of Ferguson Stein Chambers.

In 2007 he joined another Charlotte law

in 2013 for his professional success and work in diversity and philanthropy, and inclusion in the Charlotte Business Journal’s “40 under 40” in 2014.

After congratulating our graduates and thanking his own family and the graduates’ families for their support, Lofton began his remarks with data about the likelihood that children born to parents in the bottom 20 percent of income will make it to the top 20 percent. It is about 5 percent nationwide. Charlotte is lower (4.4 percent) and

San Jose, California, much higher (13 percent). “In fact, of the 50 largest U.S. cities, Charlotte ranked dead last in terms of upward

mobility, and Raleigh did only slightly better, coming in at number 48.” These numbers, Lofton continued, “go to the heart of our notions of fairness and the American dream.”

“For this reason,” he told graduates, “I hope you not only choose to get involved; I hope you will challenge the system” because the inequality represented by this example can hardly be attributed to chance and we know that much of it is related to structural barriers such as inadequate schools. And the comparative data are not encouraging for Tarheels – there must be some barrier in how a child’s life is structured in North Carolina that gives a child born in San Jose an opportunity for upward mobility that is three times greater than a child born in Charlotte. The takeaway: “Lasting change requires challenging structural barriers and it demands persistent advocacy in the face of setbacks.”



Brandon M. Lofton, Marques McPhail, and Evelyne Huber

firm, Robinson, Bradshaw & Hinson, working primarily to help cities, counties, hospitals, universities fund capital projects that serve the public good, especially schools and healthcare facilities. He currently is a member of Robinson Bradshaw’s Committee on Inclusion, which works to increase the diversity of the firm’s attorneys. Beyond his formal legal practice, Lofton is a member of the board of directors of the Levine Museum of the New South and the Housing Advisory Board of Charlotte-Mecklenburg. And, not least, Lofton has dedicated countless hours as president of the Board of Directors for the Council for Children’s Rights, a non-profit advocacy and legal services program for children in North Carolina.

Lofton’s various awards and recognitions include being named to the 2012, 2014 and 2015 North Carolina Super Lawyer’s List of Rising Stars for government finance, receiving the Charlotte Catalyst Award



THE UNC LGBTQ INITIATIVE: TAKING THE LEAD ON CUTTING EDGE ISSUES

In 2012 UNC established the LGBTQ Representation and Rights Research Initiative. The initiative is housed in the Political Science Department, and in just three years it has established itself as the preeminent center in the world focused on the representation in office of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer communities and individuals.

Forty years ago, in the summer of 1976, Coos Huijsen became the first out gay Member of Parliament when elected to the Tweede Kamer of the Netherlands. Since Coos Huijsen, 304 out lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people have served in national parliaments around the world, including 248 lower house MPs (Members of Parliament) and 47 upper house Senators and Lords. Nine have served as both lower and upper house members. The most recent elected official is Geraldine Roman,

a transwoman who was elected to the Philippines House on May 9th of this year. Today, there are 184 out LGBT parliamentarians in office in 43 countries.

Professor Andrew Reynolds directs the Initiative and has published reports on out parliamentarians, LGBTQ rights in Latin America and the Caribbean, transgender candidates and elected officials, and the 2015 UK General Election. This fall, he will publish a report on LGBTQ developments in Asia. The data and analysis are used by USAID and the US State Department, the UN, leading Human Rights groups and NGOs globally. The Initiative's Transgender Report was launched at a Westminster event hosted by the British Government, attended by MPs and Lords. The Initiative also collects data on out cabinet ministers, provincial leaders and legislators, US State legislators, European Parliament

members, and transgender candidates and elected officials around the world.

A growing body of evidence demonstrates that each and every out parliamentarian has had a huge impact on politics and society. National and international LGBTQ advocacy groups also play important roles in shaping the social and political climates by working with elected officials. Through their visibility and presence, they change minds, hearts and laws. To celebrate the 40th anniversary of the first out MP the LGBTQ Representation and Rights Research Initiative produced a poster showing all 303 MPs and Senators/Lords.



INNOVATIONS IN TEACHING IN A LARGE LECTURE ENVIRONMENT

Teaching a large-enrollment course can be a unique task for instructors. Recalling and evaluating key concepts and facts, applying course material to new situations, and connecting concepts and theories to one another are some of the best ways that students can acquire and retain knowledge. But applying knowledge and connecting concepts don't come naturally in large lectures. How can instructors promote this type of student engagement with the material in an auditorium-sized class?

Associate Professor Jason Roberts and graduate student Anthony Chergosky have been grappling with this question since the spring of 2015, when Roberts decided to significantly change the format of his Introduction to American Government course. Roberts teaches this course to approximately 240 students each fall. With generous support from the Center for Faculty Excellence at UNC, Roberts and Chergosky sought to create a learning environment in which all 240 students would be involved in the class during each session.

They used low-stakes reading assessments to promote attendance, and activities to keep students engaged throughout class. For

example, when discussing representation in Congress, students were asked, "Should a member of Congress always put his/her state or district's interest first, or should a member always put what is best for the country first?" When discussing political socialization, students were asked, "Do you generally have the same political views as your parents, or do your political views differ from those of your parents?" In this way, students were prompted to actively think about and respond to the material presented during class. Students would respond to questions like this through using the Poll Everywhere classroom response system. Poll Everywhere is a web-based classroom response system that can accommodate multiple choice questions and even enables instructors to ask open response questions. Students could respond to the prompts through texting their response to a specific number or entering their response on Roberts' Poll Everywhere website. Roberts would then present the responses to the class. Roberts found the new information to be very helpful, saying "It was great to be able to see instant feedback on whether students were mastering the content. The classroom response system allowed me to adjust my lectures in real time."

FACULTY NEWS

James Stimson wins Warren J. Mitofsky Award



We are thrilled at the news that Professor Jim Stimson is the recipient of the the 2016 Warren J. Mitofsky Award for Excellence in Public Opinion Research. The award is given by the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, which was founded in 1947. The Roper Center is at the heart of public opinion research and houses thousands of archives and polling data. Stimson, who is the Raymond Dawson Professor of Political Science here at UNC, is receiving the award for his contributions to the study of public opinion and for his expert use of the Roper Center data archives. Stimson was an innovator in using the archives to learn about the measurement and meaning of self-reported liberal and conservative ideology in polling data.

A little history behind the name of the award: Warren Mitofsky, chairman of the Roper Center board for many years, is best known for the invention of election night exit polling, first conceived when he was affiliated with CBS News. His firm later became the source for virtually all American exit polls, jointly serving all the networks and other media outlets.

Jim's students and colleagues know him as a tireless mentor, friend and supporter of research and graduate training. His door is always open, especially to talk about new research, and no one has contributed more to our graduate program. Around the world, he is known as one of the most prominent scholars of American Politics, and his research serves as a cornerstone for the study of political mood and opinion. This prestigious award is a wonderful reminder of how remarkable it is to have Professor Stimson on the faculty here at UNC. Congratulations, Jim!

Milada Vachudova named the Jean Monnet Chair



We are also happy to report that Professor Milada Vachudova is the new Jean Monnet Chair of European Studies. Professor Vachudova is an Associate Professor of Political Science, and also the chair of the curriculum in global studies. This prestigious chair is made possible by a grant from the European Union Commission to UNC's Center for European Studies. As one of the most prominent scholars in the study of EU enlargement, Vachudova will use the funds from this chair to support her teaching and research on EU studies.

The Monnet Chair is part of a larger set of grants earned by the Center for European Studies at UNC. Also of note is that the Center is receiving a Jean Monnet Center of Excellence grant from the EU Commission. This grant will make the Center of European Studies a hub of research, teaching, events and digital activities on European Union studies for students, faculty, researchers and the general public. The theme for the center of excellence award is "The EU: Its People, Policies and Politics."

Congratulations Professor Vachudova and the Center for European Studies at UNC!



2015 POLITICAL SCIENCE ALUMNA SELECTED AS 2016-17 CARNEGIE JUNIOR FELLOWS PROGRAM RECIPIENT

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill alumna, Caroline Zullo, Class of 2015, has been selected for the elite Carnegie Junior Fellows Program. She is Carolina's first recipient of the one-year award in 25 years of record keeping by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. The Junior Fellows program provides substantive work experience at the Carnegie Endowment for students and recent graduates with career interests in international affairs.

Zullo, 22, is one of only 14 selected for the prestigious program from a pool of almost 200 applicants representing nearly 150 institutions. As a Junior Fellow, she will work full-time at the Carnegie Endowment in Washington, D.C. as a paid research assistant to the endowment's senior associates. "We are tremendously proud of Caroline for being UNC-Chapel Hill's first Junior

Fellow of record," said Chancellor Carol L. Folt. "With her deep commitment to the advancement of peace and international affairs, I know her year with the Carnegie



Endowment will be a transformative experience that will set her on course for a brilliant career in humanitarian affairs." Zullo, from Raleigh, North Carolina,

is the daughter of Gary and Lisa Zullo. She graduated with honors from UNC-Chapel Hill in 2015 with a double major in Political Science and Global Studies and a minor in Arabic from the College of Arts and Sciences. After graduation, she taught English to Palestinian high school students in East Jerusalem through the American-Mideast Educational and Training Services.

"I am truly honored to be Carolina's first Junior Fellow of record and to be working with the Middle East program," said Zullo. "It is an invaluable opportunity not only to research and write about pressing topics in the Middle East, but also to learn from acclaimed Carnegie scholars and senior associates."

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TWO STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN THE 2015 RALPH BUNCHE SUMMER INSTITUTE

For 30 years, the American Political Science Association (APSA) has sponsored an intensive summer program designed to introduce rising seniors to the atmosphere of graduate training in political science, with an orientation toward increasing the diversity of students in the nation's PhD programs, and eventually the faculty ranks throughout the profession. Ralph J. Bunche was the first African-American to receive a PhD in political science; he went on to become the US Ambassador to the United Nations, served

as President of the APSA, and won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1950. The program was initially designed to encourage African-American students to pursue graduate training by introducing them to the atmosphere of graduate school and to senior scholars doing important research in political science. In the following years, RBSI expanded to include students from underrepresented backgrounds, and students interested in broadening participation in political science and pursuing scholarship on issues affecting under-represented groups.

2016 POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS

Each year departmental faculty committees recognize undergraduates, graduate students, and a faculty member for outstanding achievement in the Department of Political Science.

Marques McPhail (Class of 2016) received the **L. Richardson Preyer Award for Excellence in Political Science**. The faculty awards this honor, named in memory of a distinguished member of the United States House of Representatives from North Carolina, to a graduating senior with the best record of scholarship in political science and service to the community.

Ryan Rosenberg (Class of 2016) received the **Terry Sanford Award for Excellence**. Named in honor of the noted alumnus of the University who served as Governor of North Carolina and as United States Senator, this award is given to the graduating senior who has written the best political science honors thesis. Ryan's thesis "Prosperous Conflict: How Backlash Helps Balkan LGBT Rights Activists" was advised by Professor Milada Vachudova.

Noah Lieberman (Class of 2016) received the **William Scott Bryant Award for Interns**. This award, named in honor of the late Scott Bryant, a member of UNC's Class of 1988 who died shortly before graduation, is given each year to outstanding undergraduates so that they can participate in internship programs in Washington, D.C. Scott Bryant viewed his own internship as an important intellectual milestone in his life, and his family honors his memory by extending this opportunity to outstanding undergraduates.

Sofie Senecal (Class of 2019) received the **Shepard Jones Award in International Relations**. This award honors Professor Shepard Jones's thirty-three years of service to the department and the contribution he made as a teacher, scholar, and mentor of students. The award is given to an undergraduate student judged to have written the best essay in International Relations.

Casey Stegman (5th-year graduate student) received the **John Patrick Hagan Award for Outstanding Teaching by a Graduate Student**. This award is given in honor of the late John Patrick Hagan, who received his doctorate in Political Science from UNC and was a member of the political science faculty at the University of West Virginia. The award is given to a graduate student judged to be "outstanding in the teaching of undergraduates as a graduate teaching assistant."

Anthony Chergosky (3rd-year graduate student) received the **Earle Wallace Award for Graduate Student Teaching**. This award honors Political Science Professor Earle Wallace, who received numerous undergraduate teaching awards during his long career at the University. The award is given to an "outstanding graduate teaching assistant who primarily serves as an assistant in large lecture sections."

Kelsey Shoub (3rd-year graduate student), Kristen Garrett (5th-year graduate student) and Cole Harvey (5th-year graduate student) were the recipients of the **James W. Prothro Award for Outstanding Research**. Established in 1987, these awards recognize research excellence among graduate students of Political Science. They also honor the legacy of Professor Prothro, who served as chair of the department and had a major impact upon the discipline's study of public opinion, particularly on issues of race and voting behavior. Kelsey was recognized for outstanding research for her master's thesis. Kristin was recognized for outstanding research for a research paper presented at the Midwest

Political Science Association (MPSA) this year. Cole was recognized for a research paper published in *Electoral Studies*.

The Department's faculty award, the **Charles Robson Award for Excellence in Graduate Instruction** was presented to **Mark Crescenzi**, Professor of Political Science. Established in 1996, the Robson Award is given to a faculty member who has significantly influenced the professional and intellectual development of graduate students. It honors Charles "Pat" Robson, a scholar of European politics and one of the Department's founders.

Congratulations to all our award recipients.



Clockwise from top left: Chelsea Estancona & Mark Crescenzi; Stephen Gent & Anthony Chergosky; Cole Harvey, Jeff Spinner-Halev & Kristen Garrett; Gary Marks & Kelsey Shoub

UNDERGRADUATE KARL VONZABERN RECEIVES A COVETED BURCH FELLOWSHIP

Karl VonZabern, a rising junior political science major from nearby Durham, has received one of UNC's five coveted Burch Fellowships for 2016. Established with a gift from Carolina alumnus Lucius E. Burch III and administered by the UNC Honors College, Burch Fellowships are designed to enable outstanding undergraduates to stretch their imagination and draw on their resourcefulness. All they have to do is convince an always-skeptical selection committee that what they are proposing is exceptionally interesting, useful, and feasible.



In Karl's case, feasibility was the major hurdle. Interested in the relationship between tourism and the breakdown of historical social hierarchies, his proposal was to examine the working culture of porters who labor on the Inca Trail, high up on the Peruvian altiplano – most Cusco hotels have oxygen tanks ready for their guests. The Trail is generally associated with Machu Picchu, the remote and mysterious Inca city, but there are many existing and potential tourist destinations in highland Peru, and they are attracting a growing tourist traffic. That will provide employment, but it also will bring change. Karl's goal is to examine this ongoing process. Specifically, with his Burch Fellowship Karl is using interviews and observation to obtain a baseline understanding of the working lives of today's indigenous population. Much of this population it is already connected to the tourist

industry, and nowhere more obviously than as porters along the Inca Trail, which demands enormous stamina along paths that are intentionally kept as rudimentary as when the Incas carved them out of the mountainside millennia ago. To limit damage to the environment, pack animals are banned from the trail. So all the equipment for what is normally a four-day trek (tents, dining tent, kitchen tent, tables, chairs, stove, gas bottle and food) is carried by porters.

As the typical tourist-treker walks with a water bottle; the porters carry everything else up to 23 miles over some of the most difficult terrain in the world. Karl is especially curious about the long-standing concern over the abuse of workers, particularly the very basic problem of being forced to carry too much weight. He hopes to use this focused baseline for later studies that will lead to a senior honors thesis.

A New York native, at age 12 Karl moved with his family to Durham and entered UNC as a Carolina Covenant Scholar. His is majoring in both Political Science and Spanish, with a minor in visual communications. An avid rock climber and trail runner, he makes no promises but is considering a career as a search and rescue helicopter pilot in the Coast Guard. In the meantime, he is spending the Fall semester studying in Santiago, Chile, focusing heavily on improving his Spanish.

In preparation for his Burch Fellowship, Karl enrolled in the Department's course on U.S.- Latin American relations, where Professor Lars Schoultz was initially convinced that Karl was biting off too much to chew on his first trip outside the United States. But he slowly came to admire Karl's imagination and initiative. "He's so quiet and unassuming that you almost overlook him in class, but then he says something a little off-beat and he grabs your attention. I don't meet many people who want to make a career out of flying helicopters into hurricanes."

2015 POLITICAL SCIENCE ALUMNA SELECTED AS 2016-17 CARNEGIE JUNIOR FELLOWS PROGRAM RECIPIENT

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While at Carolina, Zullo served on both the Honor Court and the executive board of the Campus Y and was Co-President of ENRICH, an English as a Second Language tutoring program. She was a Buckley Public Service Scholar and the recipient of the department's Thad L. Beyle Research Award, which she used to study conflict resolution in the Middle East. She also received a Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship, which supported her intensive study of Arabic in Egypt and Morocco. Zullo spent a summer as a research assistant for the Middle East Institute, where she conducted extensive research on Syrian civil society and published articles on Middle East issues on Peacefare.net. She plans to pursue a career path focused on international conflict resolution and

humanitarian affairs in the Middle East. "Caroline's achievement is inspiring," said Mary-Floyd Wilson, former director of UNC-Chapel Hill's Office of Distinguished Scholarships. "The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace not only recognizes that her prodigious skills in languages, research, and political analysis will advance their research, but this fellowship also honors Caroline's passionate dedication to International conflict resolution." The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, one of the world's leading think tanks specializing in international affairs, conducts programs of research, discussion, publication and education in international relations and U.S. foreign policy. Each year the endowment offers approximately 10-15 one-year fellowships

to uniquely qualified graduating seniors and individuals who have graduated during the past academic year. They are selected from a pool of nominees from close to 400 eligible institutions. Junior Fellows receive a monthly salary equivalent to \$38,000 annually and a generous benefits package. Caroline's political science honors thesis, *Civil Society, Stabilization, and Democratization: A Study of the Role of Civil Society Organizations in the Middle East*, was supervised by Professor Stephen Gent.

COMMENCEMENT

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Lofton confessed to being depressed by the setbacks, but his initial mentor, Julius Chambers would impatiently challenge him to stop licking his wounds and get back to work. "You need to get some fight in you," he would say. "And so, graduates, I leave you with that advice: Get some fight in you. Refuse to give up. Choose to get involved. You have a powerful education. Put it to good use. Pay back the investment North Carolina has made in you."

Brandon Lofton's address was followed by the Department's traditional recognition

of each graduate – his or her name was read by Professor Jason Roberts, the Department's Associate Chair– as each walked across the Memorial Hall stage to receive their political science certificate from Professor Huber. All this was accompanied by the enthusiastic applause of their family and friends.

Professor Jonathan Hartlyn, Senior Associate Dean for Social Sciences and Global Programs, closed the ceremony with congratulatory comments on behalf of the College of Arts and Sciences. Then

he invited the graduates to join him on the Memorial Hall patio so that their professors could meet their families. Lemonade was sipped, some pretty darned good cookies were munched, and photos were taken. Then our graduates headed off into the next chapter of their lives.

TWO STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN THE 2015 RALPH BUNCHE SUMMER INSTITUTE

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In 2015, we sent two students to participate in the program, which was held at Duke University from June 1 to July 2. Twelve students participated in the graduate and research methodology training program by completing two courses and conducting original political science research. Rodney Hero, APSA president, was on hand to speak at the closing banquet on July 2, 2015. Six RBSI Scholars were selected to present their research posters at the 2015 APSA Annual Meeting in San Francisco

Kaneesha Johnson ('16) and Marty Davidson ('16) were of this group, and both were also invited to present their research at APSA. The program had its intended effect: they were captivated by the opportunities and now have a much better understanding of graduate training. The RBSI imprimatur is a powerful signal of the quality of the students, and it showed. Marty was accepted to almost every

PhD program to which he applied, and is currently enrolled in the program at the University of Michigan in the fall. Kaneesha had a similar experience and has enrolled at Harvard. Marty credits the Bunche Institute as an amazing experience: "My participation experience with the Ralph Bunche Summer Institute was eye opening and inspiring. By participating in Bunche, I was given an advanced look at how graduate school is formatted. We were given the opportunity to take two abridged versions of graduate level courses—a race and politics class and an introduction to statistical modeling survey course. In addition, my cohort was given the opportunity to conduct some original research on a topic of our choosing along with guidance help from a mentor. I highly recommend anyone who is not sure about attending graduate school in political science but has at least a budding interests to apply to this program."

Marty and Kaneesha were accepted to Bunche through a process that was extremely competitive, pitting them as juniors against other scholars throughout the country. They succeeded there because our department was able to give them opportunities to work closely with faculty mentors who could write enthusiastically and in detail about their skills and interest. They were obviously well prepared since they were among the six chosen for the expense-paid trip to San Francisco and the APSA meetings. At APSA, they presented posters where many of those in attendance were graduate admissions directors at the nation's best programs. The program was an integral part of the reason why they were so successful in their applications to graduate school. They are now enrolled in two of the top programs in the country (Harvard and Michigan), and, more importantly, they are poised to succeed. Who knows, maybe in five or six years they will be able to return to Carolina, only this time on the faculty.

2016 UHLMAN SEMINAR

In January the Department held its 7th annual Uhlman Seminar, where graduate students presented the results of their previous summer's research projects that had been funded by the Thomas Uhlman Endowment



The Thomas M. Uhlman Graduate Fund in Political Science is a gift from the Uhlman Family – Tom earned his doctorate in political science from UNC. The Endowment is designed to help the Department attract outstanding graduate students and help them embark on their own original research.

In addition to the Uhlman Research Fellowships, the Uhlman Endowment also provides funding for graduate students to present papers at professional meetings and for the Department to recruit each year an outstanding applicant to our graduate program. In 2016 Rachel Surminsky was named the eighth Uhlman Fellow. She completed her bachelor of arts degree from the University of Georgia where she was a double major in Political Science and International Affairs. Our most recent Uhlman graduate is Lindsay Reid who accepted a tenure-track position at UC Davis.

Two recipients not in attendance shared notes from the field via video:

Zoila Ponce de Leon, researching in Lima, Peru, Policy Reform, Political Parties and Organized Interests: Universal Healthcare in Latin America

Emily Carty, researching in Barcelona, Catalonia, Personalization and Leadership Brands

Several of our Uhlman Fellows Alumni shared videos with us where they discussed the impact this support has had on their research and their careers. Check out a few of them at <http://politicalscience.unc.edu/graduate/uhlman-seminar/>

Photo from left to right:

Kelsey Shoub, Out of the Lab and Into the Wild: Relating Immigration Rhetoric to Policy Mood

Heather Ba, The Underbelly of American Hegemony: Financial Cycles and Crises Since 1970

Andrew Tyner, Who's an Expert? The Composition of Issue Communities in U.S. Television Media

Eric Hansen, Constituency Diversity and Representation in American State Legislatures

Chelsea Estancona, Understanding Paramilitary Violence

Thomas Uhlman

INNOVATIONS IN TEACHING IN A LARGE LECTURE ENVIRONMENT

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Roberts and Chergosky wanted to see if increased attendance, completion of reading assignments, and in-class activities would lead to higher exam scores. In a paper that they presented at the 2016 Annual Teaching & Learning Conference of the American Political Science Association, Roberts and Chergosky present compelling evidence to suggest that the new course format helped increase exam scores relative to the old format.

Now that Roberts and Chergosky have established that the average exam scores rose for the entire class, they are

turning to the question of how the more interactive course format affected the learning outcomes of first-generation college students as well as students of color. The two are motivated by the idea that all students are capable of succeeding, and are excited by the possibilities that interactive teaching methods and technologies present to enhance student learning. Chergosky, who is starting to think about his own career in academia, was pleased to learn that “interactive, engaging pedagogical approaches can be used effectively in all sorts of teaching and learning environments, including large introductory courses.”

GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS 2016

NOTABLE PUBLICATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

Kiran Auerbach was one of three graduate students at UNC Chapel Hill to be awarded a Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) Fellowship for the 2015 fiscal year. Out of a pool of 42 U.S. doctoral students to apply for the region of Eastern Europe and Eurasia, she was one of only two who were selected. Kiran has been conducting field research in Bosnia and Herzegovina since November 2015 and will return to Chapel Hill in August. Her research focuses on how political parties in young democracies use patronage as a means to control subnational governments. In particular, she looks at the conditions under which mayors can promote accountability to citizens instead of to party elites at higher levels of government. Her activities in the field include collecting data on local elections and political parties in Bosnia, as well as developing innovative indicators to measure corruption at the local level. She has been interviewing various political actors including mayors, municipal counselors, political party officials, and experts from NGOs and international governmental organizations operating in the country. She will present her preliminary findings at the APSA Annual Meeting in Philadelphia this September.

Eric Hansen co-authored two manuscripts accepted for publication during the 2015-16 academic year. "The Symbolic and Substantive Representation of LGB Americans in the U.S. House," written with Sarah Treul, was published in the *Journal of Politics* (2015). The article finds that members of Congress who represent large lesbian, gay, and bisexual populations in their districts are much more likely to sponsor gay rights legislation than their colleagues. The second manuscript "Does Paying Politicians More Promote Economic Diversity in Legislatures?" is forthcoming in the *American Political Science Review*. The paper, written with assistant professor Nicholas Carnes of Duke University's Sanford School of Public Policy, argues that raising the salaries paid to elected officials would actually attract more well-paid professionals to run for office, rather than the working class candidates that salary hikes are often said to attract.

Lindsay Reid published a sole-authored manuscript in the *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. Her article, "Finding a Peace that Lasts: Mediator Leverage and the Durable Resolution of Civil Wars," examines how mediators' leverage, or form of influence, shapes the trajectory of peace processes in civil wars. Lindsay's theory and findings indicate that mediation with credibility leverage - mediation that relies on contextual knowledge, trust, and informational flows

- is crucial in achieving more durable solutions to civil war. In short, the article suggests that mediators must consider the long-term benefits of fostering as opposed to forcing peace settlements.

Kelsey Shoub is a Summer Data Fellow in the newly created Data Labs at Pew Research Center this summer. The Data Labs team is a new group within the Center that uses cutting edge data science and computational methods to contribute to the Pew Research Center's ongoing research in key areas such as politics, journalism, and social trends. As a Summer Fellow, Kelsey contributes to ongoing projects in the Lab and is writing an original report examining the relationship between lobbying activity and the discussion of policy topics inside and outside the halls of Congress.

ONWARD AND UPWARD

We are happy to announce these current and former graduate students will be moving into great new jobs this fall. **Brice Acree** will be an Assistant Professor at the Ohio State University. **Kristin Garrett** will be an Assistant Professor at the University of Georgia. **Josh Jansa** will be an Assistant Professor at Oklahoma State University. **John Lovett** will be a visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Richmond. **Josh Miller** will be a lecturer at UNC-Charlotte. **Lindsay Reid** will be an Assistant Professor at the University of California at Davis, and **Florian Stoeckel** will be an Assistant Professor at Exeter. Congratulations to these fantastic graduate students, and good luck with these amazing careers!



STAFF SPOTLIGHT: SUSAN HESKE, UNDERGRADUATE COORDINATOR

In February of 2012, Susan Heske stepped into a hurricane of students, deadlines, and paperwork. Our department had lost its Undergraduate Coordinator, one of the most critical service positions in any department on any campus. The undergraduate students were scrambling to get into the classes they needed, and for some it was a matter of whether they would graduate on time in May. Susan was coming to us from the New School in New York, and luckily for us (and our students), she was well equipped to weather the storm. She launched into the job with energy and compassion for the students, and quickly established a reputation for solving problems. Ever since, our students have profited from her hard work as she shepherds them through the major.

Susan's contributions go well beyond managing the course registrations of our undergraduates. She works closely with the Associate Chair to organize each semester's courses. This painstaking process requires her to schedule each course, make sure it is in the right classroom at the right time and meets the right requirements. She also assists faculty in creating new courses, and helps our graduate students as they go through the process of teaching their own course for the first time.

Beyond courses, Susan has been an indispensable contributor to the department's communications with students, parents, and alumni. She helped retool the departmental website, and managed it to keep us up to date on notable news. She has organized the departmental graduation each of the last four years, fighting to keep our ceremony in the beautiful Memorial Hall and working day and night to make this event special for all of our graduates and their families. And last but not least, since 2012 Susan has been the chief architect of this newsletter.

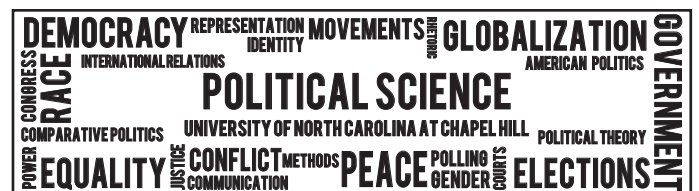
Despite these many hats, along with public service work with the LGBTQ Center in Durham, Susan is still happiest to focus on our students. She got into this business to help students, and it remains her passion. She is an advocate for them, spending countless hours helping them navigate the

complicated landscape of the major, courses, and life at UNC. For many of you who benefited from her work behind the scenes during your time here at UNC, you may not have even noticed her contributions. But we are thankful for her hard work, and pleased to shed some light on her accomplishments in this year's Staff Spotlight.

Thank you, Susan!



From left to right: Mark Crescenzi, Susan Heske and Lars Schultz





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